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Youth Offenders....Partnering To Restore Communities

Youth on parole from the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) will commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week by participating in a community restoration project in East Mesa.

As many as 50 ADJC youth and community mentors from Mesa will partner with the City of Mesa's Neighborhood Outreach Office, Save The Family organization and a number of corporate and juvenile-treatment partners to clean-up and beautify two neighborhoods in East Mesa.

The clean-up will also involve work on a transitional housing project owned and operated by Save The Family of Arizona. The project serves families in need of temporary transitional housing, including victims of domestic violence. The clean-up is in conjunction with a nationwide commemoration of the rights of crime victims week (April 18-24, 2004), and the commitment of youthful offenders to give back to their communities. ADJC youth submitted and selected the project title: *Taking Pride In What We Do* to emphasize their commitment to restoring hope and healing for victims, youth and communities.

Among the partners sponsoring this event are Albertsons, Arizona Public Service (APS), Basha's Supermarkets, Fry's Food, Infinite Services and companies operating youth treatment facilities, Canyon State Academy, Johnny McWilliams, and New Horizon. Also participating is Unity of the Southwest, an interfaith church located in Mesa that provides youth mentors for ADJC youth on parole, and Maricopa Alliance for Juvenile Corrections (MAJC), Tri Phase, Tumbleweed, Youth Etc.

Additional information is included below:

Who: Approximately 50 youth offenders, ADJC staff and adult mentors

What: Mesa Community Cleanup Project

Where: Kleinman Park*, 710 South Extension Road in Mesa, just North of West 8th Avenue.

***Kleinman Park will be the staging area (8:30-9:00) and lunch (12:00-1:00) location.**

When: Saturday, April 24th 10am - noon.

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